

U.S.-SOVIET SUMMIT IS PLANNED MAY 30 WITH BUSH AS HOST

FIVE DAYS OF TALKS

Prospects of Concluding Major Arms Accords Appear to Be Dim

By THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN

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WASHINGTON, March 5 — President Bush and President Mikhail S. Gorbachev of the Soviet Union will hold a five-day meeting in the United States beginning on May 30, the White House and the Kremlin announced today.

The announcement of the summit dates is as much a political statement as a scheduling matter. The decision comes at probably the tensest moment in Soviet-American relations since President Bush took office, largely because of Washington's discomfort with the Kremlin's crackdown on the Lithuanian independence movement.

In talks in Washington over the last two days with Eduard A. Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, Secretary of State James A. Baker 3d has repeatedly emphasized that suppression of the Baltic drive for independence will seriously damage the superpower relationship.

Talks to Run Until June 3

Nonetheless, the Administration appears to have determined that the Kremlin's activity in Lithuania, until now at least, does not require any delay in announcing the summit dates or in holding the meeting. The sessions are scheduled to begin on Wednesday, May 30, in Washington and end on Sunday, June 3.

"I don't have any idea about the private discussions that went on" between Mr. Baker and Mr. Shevardnadze, said the White House spokesman, Marlin Fitzwater. "But I don't think there was any anticipation that the summit would be changed on the basis of the existing situation."

The Baker-Shevardnadze talks are concentrating on overcoming obstacles to treaties limiting long-range nuclear missiles, chemical weapons and conventional arms in Europe, as well as resolving outstanding economic and regional problems.

Arms Accords Unlikely

Both Soviet and American officials indicated today that the prospects of signing major arms-control initiatives at the meeting appeared to be dim. The meeting was initially scheduled for February. But at their meeting in Malta in December, Mr. Bush and Mr. Gorbachev stated their wish that the get-together be an occasion for signing a Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, known as Start, or for reaching agreement on all of the accord's major provisions.

Senior American and Soviet officials, briefing reporters on today's talks, indicated that it was highly unlikely that a Start treaty would be ready for signing at the spring session. Whether even

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Reuters

Lithuanians protesting outside the prosecutor's office in Vilnius after Soviet troops occupied it.

Upheaval in the East: To the High Ground Again

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an agreement in principle will be completed by then also remains in doubt.

A senior Administration official said that the United States might introduce an important new proposal, either for the current Start negotiations or in the discussion of principles for the proposed Start-2 treaty, which seeks to ban either all land-based multiple-warhead ballistic missiles, known as MIRV's, or those placed on trains.

Soviets Oppose Idea

Soviet officials said that introducing such a ban at this point in the Start talks was not a good idea since it might slow the negotiating process. Several prominent Senators have said that Congress would not support the Administration's request for both a truck-mounted, single-warhead Midgetman

The decision comes at a tense moment for the White House.

missile system and a rail-mounted MX multiple warhead missile system, and have been urging the White House to pursue a ban on mobile MIRV's with Moscow.

During today's discussion of regional issues, American officials indicated that the Soviet negotiators seemed to be edging away from their insistence that a unified Germany must be neutral. While they were not ready to accept the American proposal that a

united Germany be a full member of NATO, the Soviets appeared more than ever to be open to alternative security arrangements, officials said.

On the Middle East agenda, the Soviets told the American side that they would be ready to consider restoring diplomatic relations with Israel and permitting the direct flight of Jews from Moscow to Israel, if the Israeli Government would provide them with guarantees that the refugees would not be settled on the West Bank or in East Jerusalem.

How the setting of the summit dates might affect each side's room for maneuver on the Lithuania question is uncertain.

Some analysts say it could limit Washington's ability to take a tough line with Mr. Gorbachev on Lithuania, should the situation there deteriorate. Walking away from a scheduled summit meeting would be a move without precedent in United States-Soviet relations.

In 1960, President Eisenhower planned to visit Nikita S. Khrushchev, the Soviet leader, in Moscow, but no date had been set when the meeting was canceled after an American U-2 spy plane was shot down over the Soviet Union. In 1968, President Johnson planned to see Leonid I. Brezhnev in October, but again there was no date set when Soviet forces invaded Czechoslovakia that summer, putting an end to the plans.

Dole Meets With Bush

This time, the Administration will have to be careful that it does not try to compensate for moving ahead with the summit talks by turning up its criticism of Moscow to a point where it inflames a Congress already urging a harder line on the Lithuania issue.

Senator Bob Dole of Kansas, the minority leader, met with President Bush this morning to discuss the Senator's planned visit to the Middle East. He was asked on his way out of the White House what he thought of a summit session given the situation in Lithuania.

"My view is that it makes it a little more difficult," he said. "We tried to express that to Shevardnadze last night — speaking for Congress, not the President. And members of Congress in both parties might have a different view if there's any force used in Lithuania, about trade or anything else dealing with the Soviet Union. We didn't get into arms control. My own view is we ought to go forward with arms control agreements."

To the Summit: 3 Decades

DATE	LEADERS	SITE
September 1959	President Eisenhower and Nikita S. Khrushchev	Camp David, Md.
June 1961	Khrushchev and President John F. Kennedy	Vienna
June 1967	President Lyndon B. Johnson and Aleksei N. Kosygin	Glassboro, N.J.
May 1972	President Richard M. Nixon and Leonid I. Brezhnev	Moscow
June 1973	Nixon and Brezhnev	Washington
June-July 1974	Nixon and Brezhnev	Moscow, Yalta.
November 1974	President Gerald R. Ford and Brezhnev	Vladivostok
June 1979	President Jimmy Carter and Brezhnev	Vienna
November 1985	President Ronald Reagan and Mikhail S. Gorbachev	Geneva
October 1986	Reagan and Gorbachev	Reykjavik
December 1987	Reagan and Gorbachev	Washington
May-June 1988	Gorbachev and Reagan	Moscow
December 1988	Gorbachev and Reagan	New York
December 1989	Bush and Gorbachev	Malta